Art Gallery of Ontario

THE GALLERY

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A.Y. Jackson after "The Group"

by Gail Hutchison

A founding member of the Group of Seven, Alexander Young Jackson was born in Montreal in 1882 and died near Kleinburg, north of Toronto, in 1974. To mark the centennial of Jackson's birth, the Art Gallery of Ontario has organized *Alberta Rhythm: The Later Work of A.Y. Jackson*. The first in a special series of exhibitions that deal with the later work of members of the group, it opens May 15 and continues through June 27.

Organized by the Gallery's Curator of Canadian Historical Art, Dennis Reid, the exhibition will consist of some 80 canvases, oil sketches, and drawings dating from 1933 to 1968. They will also be shown in the Glenbow Museum from July 16 through September 5, 1982.

Dennis Reid talked to *The Gallery* about the show and the importance of examining the contribution made by Jackson and other members of the Group of Seven after they disbanded in 1933.

"There has always been a broad public interest in the Group of Seven and what it stands for," says Reid, "but this interest has been indiscriminate. We must examine their work in an individual way, looking at what they achieved and contributed as individual artists. Together, they changed the face of Canadian art; separately, they are overshadowed by their past. We tend to forget that five of them were major artists in their own right – Lawren Harris, J.E.H. MacDonald, Arthur Lismer, Frederick Varley, and Jackson.

"At the moment, the Gallery is scheduling an exhibition on the later work of Lismer next year and, in 1985, the centenary of Harris' birth, a similar show on him. Next fall, the Varley retrospective organized by the Edmonton Art Gallery will be here. It is comprehensive and covers the later work well, so we don't need to do another Varley exhibition. We'll simply look at this one in the context of our series."

How did Jackson differ from the others?

"Jackson changed the least. Throughout his life, he adhered more closely than the others to the group's ideal. But then, he was a bachelor all his life. He always lived in his studio and went off on sketching trips as soon as the snow began to melt. After the group disbanded in 1933, the west beckoned to him as an escape to vast, free spaces at a time of acute depression. During the years covered in *Alberta Rhythm*, he travelled extensively to Alberta, the Northwest Territories, and Baffin Island."

A.Y. Jackson (Canadian, 1882-1974), *Country Road, Alberta*, c. 1954; oil on panel, 26.7 x 33.4 cm. Gift of Dr. Naomi Jackson Groves, Ottawa, 1981.

How did this affect his work?

"The most noticeable difference was as a consequence of the change in his sketching grounds. The "look" of his pictures and the implications of the landscape are different. In Quebec, where he had previously sketched, there is a longstanding relationship between thoroughly settled man and nature. In the northwest and in Alberta, the land is 'newer,' raw, and man is nomadic, not settled.

"Jackson's work also became increasingly personal as the pressure to produce large-scale canvases was withdrawn. You must remember he was in his sixties during the forties, and he was beginning to sell everything he painted. In the group period, he would have brought sketches back to his studio to work on large-scale canvases because, like the others, he always felt the need to produce images that stood for grand things. But in the late thirties and beyond, he increasingly concentrated on small, 10-by-13-inch sketches done on the site.

"It was these small, lucid sketches that were his first and final love and that are the great thrill of the exhibition. They are more naturalistic than the large works, and reflect the particular atmosphere, colour, and textures of the place. At the same time, they are subtle and effective works of art because in them, colour and form have been marshalled to capture the essence of an experience.

"He also worked on medium-sized canvases that retain much of the immediacy and the atmosphere of the sketches, while working in a more self-conscious way with formal elements of painting."

Could you give us some examples?

"A good example of these small sketches would be *Country Road, Alberta*, done in 1954, which Naomi Jackson Groves has given to the Gallery. A large 1939 canvas in the show is *South from Great Bear Lake*, in the collection of the Gallery; while one of his medium-size canvases, *Islands, Georgian Bay*, of 1954, is on loan to the exhibition from a private collection."

Jackson continued to travel and sketch and produced work of remarkable calibre right up to 1968, when, at the age of 86, he suffered a stroke. What are the key qualities of Jackson's work up to this time?

"Jackson developed his skill to such a level that when he was 'on,' such as during his trips to Great Bear Lake in 1938 and 1951, he produced sketches that render the wholeness of the scene. He had this capacity to identify precisely the colour–hue and tone– and form, and to put them all together in a way that evoked the mood of a place. This is where the real quality of his work lies. The exhibition will show how he later came to rely increasingly on colour rather than on line. There is no drawing in his sketches of the 1960s. He observed and analyzed in terms of colour. As a result, the elements look loose, almost floating. In his Baffin Island sketches of 1965, his last great trip, his work gels in a wonderful way. Colour harmonies are brilliant and astute and also effective in terms of being close to the local colour of Baffin Island. He caught the feeling of the air and the grit of the land. These sketches are the grand finale of his work and of the exhibition."

What is Jackson's main contribution as revealed in the exhibition?

"He believed strongly that the only true source of art is the land. He understood its beauty, the way we must relate to it and the way its moods shape us. It was the pursuit of that ideal that kept his art alive and vital."

Alberta Rhythm: The Later Work of A.Y. Jackson is sponsored by Costain Limited.

Prints by Major Japanese Artist Utagawa Kuniyoshi

by Brenda Rix

An exhibition of woodblock prints by the major Japanese artist, Utagawa Kuniyoshi (1797-1861), opens at the Art Gallery May 1 and continues through June 20, in the Print and Drawing Gallery. Based on the Raymond A. Bidwell Collection of Japanese prints in the Springfield Museum, Springfield, Massachusetts, the richly coloured and dramatic works will delight both the casual viewer and the connoisseur of Japanese prints alike. The exhibition of approximately 100 prints provides a comprehensive overview of Kuniyoshi's career, with many examples of his highly original interpretations of Japanese myths and legends, as well as insights into everyday life in the pleasure districts of the city of Edo.

By the mid-18th century, the emerging Japanese middle class was seeking entertainment in the pleasure quarters of large cities, particularly the *Yoshiwara* of Edo, and in the very popular *Kabuki* theatre. Woodblock prints captured this world of beautiful courtesans, mighty wrestlers, and famous actors, and were as popular a form of amusement as the subjects they represented. Known as *ukiyo-e* prints, which literally means "pictures of the floating world," they described a transitory world of fashion and fun. Their distinctive stylistic characteristics included bold areas of solid colour surrounded by black contours; assymetrical compositions often employing radical cut-offs and unusually high or low viewpoints; and irregular formats, particularly the narrow vertical.

The technique of printing with woodblocks came to Japan from China and Korea. In very early prints colour was restricted to black alone, or black with one or two hand-painted colours. In 1765 the first three-colour print was achieved by Suzuki Harunobu, and within 20 years prints were produced in five or more colours.

Kuniyoshi specialized in illustrations of heroic episodes in Japanese history, especially battle scenes, but his wide range of subject matter included actors, courtesans, animals, and landscapes. Under Toyokuni I, the most influential member of the Utagawa school, Kuniyoshi received a thorough training in the art of designing woodblock prints. Influenced by the *Kabuki* theatre as well as his own fertile imagination, he brought to the *ukiyo-e* print a great sense of drama and movement, a taste for the bizarre and grotesque, and a preference for increasingly complex compositions. He also experimented in the area of caricature, designing, for example, what have been called "surrealist" portraits, heads constructed of five or six human bodies in astonishingly contorted positions.

Although Kuniyoshi, along with two other well known artists, Hiroshige (1797-1858) and Hokusai (1760-1849), belonged to the period in Japanese art called the Age of Decadence (following the so-called Golden Age at the very end of the 18th century), the originality and high technical level achieved in their works deny the label "decadent." Prints by the artists of this later period were the first to reach Europe in the 1860s and 1870s, and the first to attract Western artists such as Whistler, van Gogh and the Impressionists with their unique qualities of directness and apparent simplicity. Stylistic elements borrowed from Japanese woodblock prints were soon utilized by many European artists, and Japanese prints had a profound impact on colour printing in the West, especially on lithography.

Brenda Rix is Curatorial Assistant, Prints and Drawings.

EVENTS

Exhibitions

Alberta Rhythm: The Later Work of A.Y. Jackson
Sam and Ayala Zacks Wing
May 15–June 27
The first in a series of exhibitions to explore the latter part of the careers of prominent Group of Seven artists. The Jackson show will consist of about 80 works selected to isolate the strengths of, and give critical shape to, the second half of Jackson's career. The Gallery gratefully acknowledges the support of Costain Limited. Members' Preview May 14.

New Acquisitions Contemporary International Collection
Zacks South
May 15–June 27

Sybil Andrews
Margaret Eaton Gallery
May 29–July 25
The first retrospective exhibition of British printmaker Sybil Andrews, now living in British Columbia. Includes 60 linocuts by Andrews, and a selection of linocuts by her contemporaries, who were influenced by the Vorticist movement. Organized and circulated nationally by the Glenbow Museum in Calgary.

Utagawa Kuniyoshi Prints
Print and Drawing Gallery
May 1–June 20
An exhibition of woodblock prints by a major Japanese artist. The selection of about 100 works provides an overview of the career of Kuniyoshi (1797-1861). Organized by the Springfield Museum, Springfield, Massachusetts.

Fiction
Gallery of Contemporary Art
through May 30
New work by General Idea, Ian Carr-Harris, Mary Janitch, and Shirley Wittasalo, including sculpture, drawings, photography, and video. Organized and circulated nationally by the Art Gallery of Ontario Extension Services.

Contemporary German Drawings
Gallery E
through May 30
The first exhibition of German drawings of the 1960s to be presented in North America, the show focusses on 11 artists from the two most vital art centres in Germany since World War II: Berlin and Dusseldorf. Organized by the Yale University Art Gallery.

The English Miniature: A Selection from the Collections of the Victoria and Albert Museum
Margaret Eaton Gallery
through May 16
With 114 miniatures, this is the most comprehensive exhibition of English miniatures ever seen outside of England. Major works by Holbein, Nicholas Hilliard, and Isaac Oliver are featured. Organized by the Victoria and Albert Museum in conjunction with the Yale Center for British Art and the Huntington Library. This exhibition has been supported by A. Sarlos Foundation and HCI Holdings.

Greg Curnoe Retrospective
Sam and Ayala Zacks Wing
through May 2
A collection of 161 works reflecting the Canadian artist's 30-year career. This exhibition is organized by the National Gallery of Canada and is making its final appearance in Toronto.

Permanent Collection

Walker Court, Wood, Fudger, Laidlaw, and Leonard Galleries
Fourteenth- through 20th-century paintings from the Gallery's Permanent Collection and long-term loans; 19th-and 20th-century sculpture and major paintings from the Contemporary Collection.

Utagawa Kuniyoshi (Japanese, 1797-1861), *Praying for Rain at Reizan-ga-saki, Kamakura*, c. 1831; woodblock print, 25 x 37 cm. Springfield Museum, Springfield, Massachusetts.

Georgia Ridley, John Ridley, and J.S. McLean Galleries
Selections of Canadian contemporary art from the Permanent Collection.

Henry Moore Sculpture Centre
Plasters, bronzes, and graphics from the Gallery's Moore Collection.

Walter Trier Anteroom
through June 13
Selections from the Trier-Fodor Foundation Gift.

Walter Trier Gallery
Selections from the Klamer Family Gift of Inuit Art.

The Grange

Thomas Need, English gentleman, wrote in the Spring of 1832:

"The town lies low, the streets contain several good shops and private houses. We waited on the Lieutenant Governor, the good and deservedly popular Sir John Colborne. We afterwards had the honor of dining at his table, where we met some of the principal residents."

–Extract from the *Journal of a Settler in Upper Canada, 1832-1838*, London 1838; reprinted Bobcaygeon Printing, 1981.

Jean Simeon Chardin (French, 1699-1779)
Jar of Apricots, also called *A Dessert* 1758
Oil on canvas, 57.2 x 50.8 cm
Collection of the Art Gallery of Ontario

A quiet, comfortable setting – exclusively for use by Members and their guests.

Croissants and cappucino served
Sunday mornings
Light lunches, afternoon tea served daily
Open noon to Gallery closing,
Tuesday – Saturday
Sundays from 11:00 am

THE MEMBERS' LOUNGE

Fully licensed. Major credits cards accepted.

Talks and Tours
A slide presentation "An Introduction to a Gentleman's House" is presented daily at 2:30 pm. Group tours may be arranged by appointment only.
Student tours: $1.00 per person (accompanying adults free)
Adult tours: $2.50 per person (minimum 10 people)
Senior Citizens: 50¢ per person (minimum 10 people)

Exhibitions
Wild Flowers by Robert Holmes to Sunday, May 9, in the Music Room. *The Grange through the Eyes of the Artist* from Wednesday, May 11, to early September.

Talks and Tours

Gallery Talks are free with admission and are given regularly. Please contact the Information Desk for topics.

Tuesday through Friday, 12:15 pm
Short talks by Gallery docents feature artists in the Permanent Collection.

Tuesday through Friday, 1:15 pm
Gallery docents give longer talks on temporary exhibitions or on aspects of the collection.

Sunday, 2:00 pm
Talk of the Week–Gallery staff give major talks in the galleries on topics related to the collection or temporary exhibitions.

Special Exhibitions
Tours of *Alberta Rhythm: The Later Work of A.Y. Jackson* will be featured as the Gallery Talk at 1:15 pm on Wednesdays and Fridays throughout the exhibition.
Group tours are available; please contact the Education Scheduling Office.

Courses

Canadian Painting and Sculpture, 1700-1940
Important tools in this four-week non-credit survey will be early Quebec, 19th-century landscape and portraiture, the Group of Seven, the Depression years, and the advent of abstraction. This special course, given in the Canadian Historical Galleries, will encourage the development of skills in looking at art.

The one and a half hour sessions will be presented by David Wistow, MA, every Wednesday evening, 6:30-8:00 pm from May 5 to 26. Course fee: Members, students, senior citizens $15; non-Members $20. Enrollment limited to 25. Folding stools will be provided.

To order tickets, please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope and a cheque payable to the Art Gallery of Ontario, c/o the Scheduling Officer, Education Service. See box on p. 3.

Lectures

Alberta Rhythm: The Later Work of A.Y. Jackson
Dennis Reid, Curator of Canadian Historical Art, Art Gallery of Ontario
Sunday, May 30, 3:30 pm
Sam and Ayala Zacks Wing
The curator of the exhibition will discuss A.Y. Jackson's later work in the Zacks Galleries. Free with admission.

Extension Services

The following exhibitions will be circulated by the Art Gallery of Ontario Extension Services during the month of May. Dates are subject to change.

Max Beckmann: Gesichter Portfolio
Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Halifax
May 14–June 6

Cape Dorset Engravings
Woodstock Public Library and Art Gallery
May 7–29

Photographs by Martin Chambi and Edward Ranney
The Station Gallery, Whitby
April 30–May 30

Open Studio: Ten Years
Art Gallery of Cobourg, Cobourg
May 7–30

Reinhard Reitzenstein: Nature in Motion, Rained-Out, and Sun Pod
Lindsay Art Gallery, Lindsay
April 23–May 29

Fiction
Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto
April 3–May 30

"Artists with their Work" Programs
Ross McLaren
The Gallery/Stratford
May 7

Bruce Elder
The Gallery/Stratford
May 14

Patrick Jenkins
White Water Gallery, North Bay
May 15-16

Hands On

Hands On continues with the theme of portraits and costumes on Sundays through May 16, after which it will be closed until the end of June.

THE GALLERY
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HOW TO ORDER

To order tickets, place reservations, register for courses, or request information, please follow the instructions in the Events listing and the following procedure.

1. Write to the *department specified in the Events listing*, Art Gallery of Ontario, 317 Dundas Street West, Toronto M5T 1G4.
2. Specify the name of the event, the date, and number of tickets requested, or ask for further information.
3. Indicate your name, address (including city and code), and telephone numbers.
4. Send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.
5. Enclose a cheque payable to the Art Gallery of Ontario.

Please do not combine requests or cheques to different departments.

Members' Activities

Annual Report
Members who wish to receive a copy of the 1981-82 Annual Report of the Art Gallery of Ontario should write to the Membership Department, enclosing their name and full mailing address. A copy will be mailed out following the Annual General Meeting on June 24.

Art & Apéritif
Join us each Thursday at the Membership Desk in the Lobby for a talk or tour at 5:30 pm, followed by an informal get-together with fellow Members and your tour guide in the licensed Members' Lounge. No reservation is necessary. For the tour subject, please call the Information Desk on the day of the tour.

Art in the Morning
Wednesday, May 19
"Recollections of an Art Critic": Kay Kritzwiser, well known Toronto art critic, shares with us the highlights of her career. Join her in the Members' Lounge for coffee at 9:30 am. Tickets are $3.50.
Wednesday, June 9
Coffee will be served in the Members' Lounge at 9:30 am followed by a tour of the special exhibition *Alberta Rhythm: The Later Work of A.Y. Jackson*. Tickets are $2.50.
To order *Art in the Morning* tickets from the Volunteer Office, please follow the instructions on p. 3. A member may order up to four tickets for each program.

Special Evenings for Members
Wednesday, May 19
Dennis Reid, Curator of the Canadian Historical Collection, Art Gallery of Ontario, will return for this Special Members' Evening to tour the exhibition *Alberta Rhythm: The Later Work of A.Y. Jackson*. Guests will be seated at 6:00 pm in The Grange Court Restaurant. Tour begins at 8:00 pm. Tickets are $17.

Wednesday, June 23
Peter Gale, Senior Education Officer, Adult Programs, Art Gallery of Ontario, will tour the exhibition of international contemporary art, *The Roger Davidson Contemporary Collection*. To complete a summer evening enjoy a sumptuous strawberry dessert, wine, and coffee on the Garden Terrace of The Grange Court Restaurant. Tour begins at 7:00 pm sharp in the Contemporary Gallery. Tickets are $12.50.

To order *Special Evenings for Members* tickets from the Volunteer Office, please follow the instructions on p. 3. A member may order up to four tickets for each program. There will be an extra charge for any member wishing to deviate from the set menu; notice is required at least 10 days in advance by telephoning the Volunteer Office. *There are no refunds from 10 days prior to the event.*

Art Tours

Villas of Venice and Florence
October 12-26
This trip is now fully subscribed.

Toledo and Cleveland, Ohio
September 28-October 1
Circling Lake Erie, enjoy the important El Greco exhibition in Toledo, a visit to the fine Cleveland Museum of Art, the Gottlieb exhibition at the Albright-Knox Gallery, Buffalo, and the ever-popular Detroit Institute of Art. Please request brochure from the Volunteer Office by following instructions on p. 3.

Washington
November 4-7
Highlight the fall season with a visit to Washington. See the sights, art, and architecture of the U.S. capital, with time to enjoy the commercial galleries and browse in the Georgetown boutiques. Further details in next issue.

Melanesian Adventure
A Sea-Going Search for Primitive Art and Artifacts
February 26-March 14, 1983
Meeting the world's most modern expedition ship, *M.S. World Discoverer*, in Cairns, Australia, we will cruise through the Great Barrier Reef heading towards Papua New Guinea (Port Moresby, Entrecasteaux, and Trobriand Islands, Sepik River, Angoram, Madang, Tufi) rediscovering the ancient rites and rituals, traditional native art, artifacts, and culture of one of the world's most interesting island groups. The varied cultures of Melanesia distinguish themselves in their highly developed art skills–wood carvings, masks, and ancestral figures. Unbelievable photographic opportunities!

Gallery Hopping

Yorkville in June
Wednesday, June 16
7:00-9:00 pm
Join the Junior Committee for a spring stroll through the Yorkville galleries. You will visit several of the established galleries and discover some exciting new ones. Refreshments will be served. Tickets are $5 each and may be ordered from the Volunteer Office by following the instructions on p. 3. A Member may buy up to 4 tickets.

An old *kope* board from Urama area, Papua New Guinea.

MELANESIAN ADVENTURE

A Sea-Going Search for Primitive Art and Artifacts

February 26-March 14, 1983

A project of the Volunteer Committee

Nicholas Hilliard (British, 1547-1619), *Self-Portrait*, 1577; watercolour on vellum, dia 41 mm. Victoria and Albert Museum. From the exhibition *The English Miniature*, continuing through May 16.

Gallery Shops

The Book Shop
Ten per cent discount for Members on orders of $2.50 or more. With more than 5,000 titles to choose from, The Book Shop offers the finest selection of publications on the visual arts in Canada.

Art Cart
We've been spring cleaning! Don't miss Art Cart's new spring stock on the Mezzanine. Colourful and stimulating toys are priced from 10¢ to $5. Open Tuesday to Friday 11:00 am to 2:00 pm and Saturday and Sunday 12:00 to 4:00 pm. A project of the Junior Committee.

The Jewellery Shop
The Jewellery Shop carries a special selection of superb designer jewellery in gold, silver, brass, and copper by Canadian and international artists. A project of the Volunteer Committee.

The Reproduction Shop
Searching for a hard-to-find fine-art reproduction? Find it in The Reproduction Shop–the largest selection of Canadian and international reproductions and posters in Canada. Also available: do-it-yourself Leader frames and museum mounting, or use our framing service. Ten per cent discount to Gallery Members. A project of the Volunteer Committee.

Gallery Services

Art Rental Service
The collection of approximately 800 works by Canadian and international artists is available for rental to Gallery Members. Installations in the Art Rental Gallery change monthly. From Wednesday, May 5-Sunday, May 30: *Québec Aujourd'hui*, a special selection of Quebec artists–contemporary works from *la belle province* chosen especially for this month's exhibition.

The Restaurant
Luncheon is served daily from 12 noon seven days a week and dinner Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 5:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Specialties include Cappelletti Milanese: pasta stuffed with veal, braised in tomatoes, garlic, onions, and Parmesan cheese.

The Members' Lounge
Open from noon to 5:30 pm, Tuesday to Sunday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings until 9:00 pm. Light luncheons, served from noon until 2:30 pm, include avocado stuffed with baby shrimp and mushrooms, a variety of salmon specialties, salads, and a choice of international cheeses.
Fully licensed.

Cafeteria
Open six days a week from 11:00 am. Closed Monday. Light lunches and snacks.

Edward P. Taylor Audio-Visual Centre
The Audio-Visual Centre has slides, videotapes and media kits relevant to art history available for loan to any individual within Canada. For those able to visit and select their own material, the centre is open Tuesday and Friday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and Thursday evenings 5:00 pm to 8:30 pm (until May 20). A catalogue lists the material for those outside the Metro area and a Loans Consultant will prepare out-of-town orders.

Copies of a ¾" video-cassette recently produced by the Art Gallery of Ontario, based on the exhibition *Lawren S. Harris: Urban Scenes and Wilderness Landscapes 1906-1930*, are now available for loan or in-house viewing.

For use of the video facilities, an appointment is advisable (telephone 977-0414, ext. 258). A catalogue is available upon request.

DONOR CARDS

Donations may now be made to the Art Gallery of Ontario to commemorate a birthday, anniversary, death, graduation, or any other occasion.

The person or family to be honoured will receive a special acknowledgement card. Tax receipts will be issued for gifts of $5 or more. Please include the following with your donation:

(a) the donor's name and address;
(b) the occasion to be honoured;
(c) the name and address of the recipient; and
(d) a donation cheque payable to the Art Gallery of Ontario.

Forward mail to:
The Volunteer Office
Art Gallery of Ontario
317 Dundas Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M5T 1G4

A project of the Volunteer Committee

Collectors' Titles on View

Dutch Painters of the 19th Century *$302.75*
The Paintings and Drawings of William Blake; Text and Plates 2 volume set *$300.00*
Lexicon of the Belgian Romantic Painters *$277.50*
Audubon Birds of America *$195.00*
Le Corbusier Sketchbooks Volume 2, 1950-1954 *$154.95*
The Prints of LeRoy Nieman *$135.00*
Paul Outerbridge (limited edition) *$135.00*
Paul Serusier *$132.00*
Celtic Consciousness *$125.00*
Pieter de Hooch *$119.00*
Apocalypse *$110.00*
Daumier *$110.00*
Rembrandt Etchings *$100.00*

THE BOOK SHOP
10% discount to Members

The Canada Council Turns Twenty-Five

by William J. Withrow

This year is the 25th Anniversary of The Canada Council. Over the years of the council's existence, Canada has experienced unparalleled cultural growth; more Canadians now attend arts events than sports events. The council's primary responsibility is to provide grants and services to professional artists and arts organizations in Canada and to sustain and enhance the artistic life of this country. It has since its inception regularly assisted the Art Gallery of Ontario with funds for contemporary Canadian exhibitions.

The council concentrates on providing grants to individual artists – musicians, painters, sculptors, creative writers, dancers, and video and film artists, among others – to "buy time" for the artist to engage in personal creation or to pursue studies in his profession. In recent years, about 4,000 artists have applied for a grant each year, and some 1,000 have received assistance.

About 2,000 grants are awarded to organizations each year. These organizations range in size from public art galleries and artist-run spaces to print workshops, orchestras and choirs, classical ballet and modern dance companies, major theatres and small troupes, and publishing houses and literary and arts periodicals.

Also, under the council's umbrella the Art Bank purchases work by contemporary Canadian artists and rents the works for display in public places. The Touring Office offers both financial support and expertise to individuals and performing groups touring within Canada. The Explorations Program provides assistance for innovative, creative projects in a wide variety of artistic and cultural fields.

The Parliament of Canada created the council in 1957. In that first year, the council provided grants to a handful of professional theatre companies; today it assists 168. Ten professional orchestras received help in 1957; today the council funds 29. Three professional dance companies were supported; today the number is 26. There were few publishing houses in 1957; 125 now receive council aid, as do more than 70 periodicals, 20 film organizations, and 25 video groups.

From its inception, the council recognized that it could provide effective service to the arts only by maintaining close contact with the arts community. Eight months after the council's first board meeting, it met in Kingston with 50 artists from various disciplines for consultations about developments and needs in their fields.

The vast domain of the visual arts was probably the least supported artistic discipline in the council's early years. Except for grants to a few art periodicals, and assistance to art galleries for their extension activities, the council was only slightly involved. By the early 1960s, however, council grants were frequently awarded to painters, sculptors, and graphic artists. The council began to assist galleries regularly, including the Art Gallery of Ontario, with funds for exhibitions.

In 1972 the council launched its Art Bank, which buys the work of contemporary Canadian artists and rents and displays these works in community environments. The largest collection of contemporary Canadian art in the world, the bank now holds more than 10,000 works by more than 1,000 artists. About two-thirds of the collection is rented at any given time. In the early 1970s, the council also initiated film and video programs, which support the work of independent producers in these media. Some 20 film and 23 video groups and organizations currently receive council grants, and many video and film producers receive assistance toward production costs.

The Canada Council receives 85 per cent of its budget in an annual appropriation from Parliament. Additional income is drawn from the original $50 million endowment fund provided by Parliament in 1957. The Council also receives bequests and donations, which it is able to use for various programs.

The Art Gallery of Ontario joins other art organizations, artists, and audiences across the country in congratulating the Canada Council in its anniversary year. If Canada's artistic community can grow in the next quarter century as it has in the past, thanks in a large part to the Canada Council, we will be a richer country indeed.

William J. Withrow is Director of the Art Gallery of Ontario.

General Information

Admission
Adults $2
Students (full-time with cards) 75¢
Students 12-16 years 50¢
Senior Citizens (with cards) 75¢
Members, Ontario Privilege Card Holders, accompanied children under 12 free.
Admission is FREE to all on Thursday evenings from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm.

Gallery Hours
Tuesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday: 11:00 am–5:30 pm
Wednesday, Thursday: 11:00–9:00 pm
Closed Mondays (Restaurant and Gallery shops open.)

Grange Hours
Daily 12:00–4:00 pm
Wednesday and Thursday 12:00–4:00 pm and 6:00 pm–9:00 pm
Closed Mondays.

Gallery Shops
The Book Shop and The Reproduction Shop: Open seven days a week, 10:30 am–5:30 pm and Wednesday and Thursday until 9:00 pm; Jewellery Shop: Monday 12 noon–4:00 pm and regular Gallery hours; Art Cart: open Tuesday through Friday, 11:00 am–2:00 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 12 noon to 4 pm.

The Restaurant
Luncheon seven days a week from 12 noon.
Dinner, Wednesday and Thursday 5:00 pm–8:30 pm.

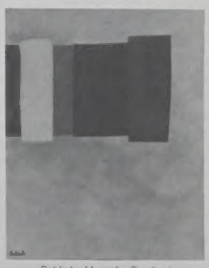
Cafeteria
Open Gallery hours six days a week from 11:00 am. Closed Mondays.

Art Rental Service
Open for viewing during regular Gallery hours. Open for business Tuesday to Saturday, 11:00 am–4:00 pm, Thursday 11:00 am–9:00 pm.

Cameras
Hand-held cameras are permitted in the Gallery, but not flashes or tripods. Works of art on loan may be photographed only with permission from the Chief Curator.

Sybil Andrews (Canadian, b. England, 1898–), *The Mowers*, 1937; linocut in four colours, 29.8 x 35.8 cm. Kenneth G. Heffel, Vancouver. From the retrospective opening May 29.

QUEBEC AUJOURD'HUI
May 5-30



Pablo by Marcelin Cardinal

A special selection by Quebec artists – exciting contemporary art from "la belle province."

ART RENTAL SERVICE

Open for business:
Tuesday to Saturday
11:00 am–4:00 pm
Thursday until 9:00 pm
Open for viewing during regular Gallery hours.

A project of the Volunteer Committee

THE GALLERY
Art Gallery of Ontario
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